

Message Text

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67

ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 MC-02 ACDA-05 SCS-03 SCA-01

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DRAFTED BY AF/W:WGRAMSAY:IW

APPROVED BY AF:JJBLAKE

AF/W:JLLOUGHRAN

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O R 102322Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 030321

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, ML, UV

SUBJECT: VOLTAN REQUEST FOR ARMS

REFS: A) STATE 009283; B) OUAGA 332 (NOTAL); C) STATE
027978 (NOTAL)

1. VOLTAN AMBASSADOR YAGUIBOU, AT HIS REQUEST, CALLED
ON DEP ASST SECY BLAKE FEB. 10 TO ASK ABOUT PENDING APPLI-
CATION FROM COLT FIREARMS FOR MUNITIONS CONTROL EXPORT
LICENSE FOR AR-15 RIFLES AND AMMUNITION GOUV HAS ORDERED.

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2. WHILE NOTING MALI'S ALLEGED NON-COOPERATION WITH LOME MEDIATION COMMISSION, AMBASSADOR SAID BORDER DISPUTE IS UNDER CONTROL AND WILL BE RESOLVED PEACEFULLY. HE REFERRED TO TELEGRAM HE RECEIVED FROM OUAGA FEB. 9 TO EFFECT THAT INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS MISSION HAD STATED PEACE EXISTS AND EXPRESSED HOPE THIS SITUATION WILL CONTINUE. YAGUIBOU ADDED THAT EVEN IN THIS NEW CONTEXT UPPER VOLTA MUST FACE FACT THAT OVER LAST FIFTEEN YEARS ONE ECONOMIC SECTOR-NATIONAL DEFENSE-HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY NEGLECTED; DEFENSE EXPENDITURES HAD BEEN "ZERO". THIS SITUATION MUST BE RECTIFIED. GOUV MUST MAKE EVERY EFFORT

PURCHASE MINIMAL QUANTITY OF ARMS. AMBASSADOR ASKED IF DEPARTMENT HAD REACHED DECISION ON COLT'S APPLICATION.

3. BLAKE REPLIED USG IS FULLY SENSITIVE TO UPPER VOLTA'S SITUATION AND REQUIREMENTS AND VALUES ITS FRIENDSHIP. ALSO RECALLED POLICY CONSIDERATIONS DESCRIBED BY EASUM IN EARLIER CONVERSATION THIS SUBJECT WHICH WOULD MAKE FAVORABLE DECISION EXTREMELY DIFFICULT. HOWEVER, VOLTAN REQUEST REMAINS UNDER CONSIDERATION AND WE WILL GIVE DEFINITE ANSWER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

4. AMBASSADOR YAGUIBOU CONCLUDED HIS PRESENTATION BY SAYING HE HOPED OUR DECISION WOULD NOT BE BASED ON RIGID PRINCIPLE, BUT RATHER ON PRACTICAL, HUMANITARIAN AND POLITICAL GROUNDS. INGERSOLL

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05 JUL 2006

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